

of Conservation Measure 25–02, regular line sink rate monitoring shall be undertaken by the CCAMLR scientific observer. The vessel shall cooperate with the CCAMLR observer who shall:

(i) aim to conduct a bottle test on every longline set during the observer's shift, noting that the test should be undertaken on the middle one-third of the line;

(ii) every seven days place at least four bottle tests on a single longline to determine any sink rate variation along the line;

(iii) randomize bottle test placement on the longline within and between sets, noting that all tests should be applied halfway between weights;

(iv) calculate an individual sink rate for each bottle test;

(v) measure the line sink rate as the time taken for the line to sink from the surface (0 m) to 10 m.

B3. The vessel shall whilst operating under this exemption:

(i) ensure that all longlines are weighted to achieve a minimum line sink rate of 0.3 m/s at all times;

(ii) report daily to its national agency on the achievement of this target;

(iii) ensure that data collected from line sink rate monitoring are recorded in the approved format and submitted to the relevant national agency at the conclusion of the season.

B4. A bottle test is to be conducted as described below.

Bottle Set Up

B5. 10 m of 2 mm multifilament nylon snood twine, or equivalent, is securely attached to the neck of a 750 ml plastic bottle⁵ (buoyancy about 0.7 kg) with a longline clip attached to the other end. The length measurement is taken from the attachment point (terminal end of the clip) to the neck of the bottle, and should be checked by the observer every few days.

B6. Reflective tape should be wrapped around the bottle to allow it to be observed at night. A piece of waterproof paper with a unique identifying number large enough to be read from a few meters away should be placed inside the bottle.

Test

B7. The bottle is emptied of water, the stopper is left open and the twine is wrapped around the body of the bottle for setting. The bottle with the encircled

twine is attached to the longline⁶, midway between weights (the attachment point).

B8. The observer records the time at which the attachment point enters the water as t1 in seconds. The time at which the bottle is observed to be pulled completely under is recorded as t2 in seconds⁷. The result of the test is calculated as follows:

Line sink rate = $10 / (t2 - t1)$

B9. The result should be equal to or greater than 0.3 m/s. These data are to be recorded in the space provided in the electronic observer logbook.

CONSERVATION MEASURE 24–03 (2003)

Experimental Integrated Line-Weighting Trials in Statistical Subareas 88.1 and 88.2 in the 2003/04 Season

The Commission,
Noting the advice of the Scientific Committee and the desire to resolve line weighting issues for autoline vessels in the Convention Area, and the proposal to undertake a comprehensive trial to further resolve this issue from Australia and New Zealand in Statistical Subareas 88.1 and 88.2, Accepting the need to have two specified vessels use longlines that will not meet the normal sink rate requirements during these trials, Agrees to adopt the following conservation measure to allow the trials to occur only on the specified agreed vessels pursuant to the experimental design put forward by the Scientific Committee. In respect of fishing in Statistical Subareas 88.1 and 88.2, paragraphs 1 and 2 of Conservation Measure 25–02, protocols A2, A3, B2, and B3 of Conservation Measure 24–02, paragraph 8 of Conservation Measure 41–09, and paragraph 7 of Conservation Measure 41–10 shall not apply to the FV *Janas*⁸ and the FV *Avro Chieftain*⁹ whilst these vessels comply with the following experimental protocol.

1. The CCAMLR Scientific Observer or the national observer shall observe all sets of longlines during the trial (100% coverage of sets).

2. Vessels shall deploy two streamer lines on all sets of longlines during the trial. Streamer lines shall be deployed on either side of the longline. The windward streamer will be of the same specification as that detailed in the Appendix to Conservation Measure 25–

02. The leeward streamer must be as close as possible to that specification, recognising that modifications will be needed to prevent entanglement of the two streamer lines and the vessels in the trial shall have operational discretion to avoid this.

3. The CCAMLR Scientific Observer shall provide a detailed description of the leeward streamer line use and construction in their cruise report.

4. One of the observers shall determine during every trial set whether seabirds of any species enter the 'risk zone' near vessels. The risk zone is defined as:

- (i) up to 100 m astern of the vessel;
- (ii) up to 10 m either side of the setting direction of the longline;
- (iii) up to 10 m above the longline.

5. Whenever a seabird is sighted in the risk zone during a set, the observer shall immediately inform the officer in charge of the setting operation who shall immediately begin firing a bird scaring gas cannon until such time that the seabird(s) leave the prescribed area. The gas cannon shall be fired on a randomized cycle with a firing frequency of at least two times every three minutes.

6. If, on firing the gas cannon three times, seabirds remain in the risk zone, the vessel shall:

- (i) if the seabird(s) is/are an albatross (all species) or giant petrel (both species) the vessel shall immediately deploy external weights on unweighted longlines (but not on integrated weight longlines) at such a rate as to achieve a 0.3 m/s line sink rate (~5 kg per 50 m) until such time that the seabird(s) leaves the prescribed area; or, alternatively
- (ii) if the seabird(s) is not a species of albatross or giant petrel, the vessel may continue the trial until such time as the seabird catch limits, for species other than in (i) above, prescribed in Annex 24–03/A are reached.

7. If either the second streamer line described in paragraph 2 above, or the gas cannon described in paragraph 6 above are not able to be operated, the trials shall cease immediately until such time as they are able to be deployed again.

8. If any one of the seabird by-catch limits in Annex 24–03/A is reached, the vessel shall revert to fishing under the requirements of Conservation Measure 41–09, Conservation Measure 41–10, Conservation Measure 25–02 and Conservation Measure 24–02.

The by-catch limits for seabirds caught¹⁰ during these trials are:

¹⁰ Subject to a license being issued by the Flag State ANNEX 24–03/A

⁵ A plastic water bottle that has a hard plastic screw-on 'stopper' is needed. The stopper of the bottle is left open so that the bottle will fill with water after being pulled under water. This allows the plastic bottle to be re-used rather than being crushed by water pressure.

⁶ On autolines attach to the backbone; on the Spanish longline system attach to the hookline.

⁷ Binoculars will make this process easier to view, especially in foul weather.

⁸ Subject to a license being issued by the Flag State ANNEX 24–03/A

⁹ Where the number of birds caught is defined in SC-CAMLR-XXII, Annex 5, paragraphs 6.214 to 6.217.